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ACTION: NONE INFO: ODPS-3, RF, FILE, CEK-3, CR/U, D/FBIS-2,
EPS/EG-2, EUR-3, IAD/CAS-3, IAD/IC, INT/PL, NIO/SS, NIO/ST, NIO/USSR,
NIO/WE, OCO/USSR, OCO/AE, ORPA/II-2, ORPA/USSR-4, ORPA/WEN-2, PCS/CAC,
RES/RSG, SE-7, (41/A)

79 2810889

PAGE 001

NC 2810889

TOR: 221028Z JUL 79

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TOO RUEHMO RUDKFMQ
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE 3933
RUDKFMQ/AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM IMMEDIATE 5032
BT
C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 189168

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C/E/SC
file - Wallenberg

E.O. 12065GDS 7/21/85) SHINN, WILLIAM T.

TAGS: SHUM, PINT, UR, US, SN

SUBJECT: (C) RAOUL WALLENBERG CASE

1. (C - ENTIRE TEXT)

2. DAS BARRY CALLED IN SOVIET CHARGE VASEV ON JULY 21 TO DISCUSS RAOUL WALLENBERG CASE. BARRY HANDED VASEV FOLLOWING NON PAPER.

3. "DURING WORLD WAR II THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION WERE UNITED IN THEIR EFFORTS TO DEFEAT THE NAZIS AND TO HALT THE SPREAD OF NAZI ATROCITIES IN EUROPE.

4. "MR. RAOUL WALLENBERG, WORKING IN HIS CAPACITY AS A SWEDISH DIPLOMAT IN WARTIME BUDAPEST, DID A GREAT DEAL TO ASSIST EAST EUROPEAN JEWS IN FLEEING NAZISM. THE UNITED STATES, AS WELL AS HIS NATIVE LAND, SWEDEN, TOOK A DEEP AND ACTIVE INTEREST IN MR. WALLENBERG'S COURAGEOUS EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF THREATENED JEWS DURING WORLD WAR II. FOR A TIME, THE UNITED STATES PROVIDED FUNDS TO SUPPORT HIS HUMANITARIAN TASK.

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
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STATE

79 2810889

PAGE 002
TOR: 221028Z JUL 79

NC 2810889

5. "THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS EMANATING FROM PERSONS WHO LEFT THE SOVIET UNION IN RECENT MONTHS AND YEARS THAT MR. WALLENBERG MAY STILL BE ALIVE. THESE REPORTS INCLUDED ACCOUNTS OF PERSONS WHO CLAIM TO HAVE SEEN HIM. HE WOULD BE IN HIS LATE SIXTIES NOW AND HIS FAMILY IN SWEDEN IS MOST ANXIOUS TO CONFIRM THE POSSIBILITY THAT HE MAY STILL BE ALIVE AND, IF SO, TO BE REUNITED WITH HIM. OUT OF CONSIDERATION FOR MR. WALLENBERG'S UNCHALLENGED CONTRIBUTION TO THE LESSENING OF HUMAN SUFFERING, AND BECAUSE OF OUR SUPPORT OF HIS WARTIME EFFORTS, WE REQUEST, ON AN EXCEPTIONAL BASIS, THAT WE BE PROVIDED WITH COMPLETE DETAILS ABOUT HIS FATE."

6. BARRY ADDED THAT US HAD AN INTEREST IN CASE FOR TWO REASONS:

A) WALLENBERG UNDERTOOK ASSIGNMENT TO BUDAPEST PARTLY AT BEHEST US OFFICIALS IN PURSUIT OF AN OBJECTIVE OF GREAT CONCERN TO PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT AND,

B) THE FUNDING FOR WALLENBERG'S ACTIVITIES WAS IN PART US FUNDS.

7. BARRY EXPLAINED THAT WALLENBERG'S RELATIVES WERE CURRENTLY IN WASHINGTON SEEKING US ASSISTANCE IN RAISING WALLENBERG MATTER WITH SOVIETS. RELATIVES ARGUED THAT SINCE US WAS INVOLVED IN WALLENBERG'S HUMANITARIAN MISSION IN BUDAPEST, WE SHOULD BE INTERESTED IN HIS FATE.

8. VASEV SAID HE HAD READ REPORTS THAT PRIME MINISTER BEGIN APPROACHED PRESIDENT CARTER ON THIS MATTER, AND SPECULATED THIS WAS WHY WE WERE BRINGING IT UP. VASEV SAID HIS GOVERNMENT HAD PROVIDED THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT WITH A REPORT ON WALLENBERG IN 1957 STATING HE HAD DIED IN PRISON IN 1947. VASEV SAID THERE WAS NOTHING NEW TO ADD.

9. BARRY REPLIED THAT IT WAS NOT BECAUSE OF PM BEGIN'S INTEREST IN THE CASE THAT WE WERE RAISING IT, BUT BECAUSE US SAW AN INTEREST OF ITS OWN IN THE MATTER. BARRY SAID HE WAS AWARE OF THE SOVIET REPORT OF 1957, BUT STATED

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

STATE

79 2810889

PAGE 003

NC 2810889

TOR: 221026Z JUL 79

VARIOUS PEOPLE HAD CLAIMED TO HAVE SEEN HIM ALIVE SINCE THEN.

10. VASEV SAID HE HAD READ THOSE REPORTS WHICH HE CHARACTERIZED AS THIRD HAND, AND ASSERTED SOVIETS WOULD NOT SAY HE WAS DEAD IF HE WAS NOT. VASEV SAID HE KNEW OF THIS CASE IN THE 1950'S WHEN HE WAS AN AIDE TO GROMYKO, AND MENTIONED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAD WANTED TO ACCOMMODATE THE SWEDES SINCE THEY WERE WELL AWARE OF THE WALLENBERG FAMILY'S PROMINENCE, BUT THERE WAS NO MORE INFORMATION. WHILE VASEV AGREED TO REPORT MEETING TO MOSCOW,

HIS PERSONAL ASSESSMENT WAS THAT THERE WOULD BE NOTHING NEW.

11. BARRY SAID IT WOULD BE REASSURING IF HE COULD RECEIVE A MORE DETAILED REPORT ON MR. WALLENBERG'S FATE.

12. FOR STOCKHOLM: CHARGE MAY INFORM MFA SYG LEIFLAND OF ABOVE APPROACH AND THAT MRS. LAGERGREN AND SWEDISH CHARGE HAVE ALSO BEEN INFORMED (BY EUR/WE DIRECTOR FUNSETH). VANCE

END OF MESSAGE

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